

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF INDIANA
INDIANAPOLIS DIVISION**

**In re: BRIDGESTONE/FIRESTONE, INC.,
TIRES PRODUCTS LIABILITY LITIGATION**

) **Master File No. IP 00-9373-C-B/S**
) **MDL NO. 1373**

**THIS DOCUMENT RELATES TO ALL
ACTIONS**

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ENTRY FOR MARCH 4, 2002

The parties appeared, by counsel, this date for a telephonic status conference regarding Ford's database production. The parties report that they, with the help of their consultants, continue to make significant progress toward the resolution of the remaining issues. The following specific issues were raised and discussed during the conference:

1. Ford has provided the plaintiffs with syntactic and semantic information for certain of its databases and is working to provide the information for certain additional databases.

Specifically, Ford reports that it will provide the CQIS information as soon as its consultants have completed their quality check; if the quality check reveals problems that will delay production to the plaintiffs, Ford will so notify the plaintiffs. As for the GCARS database, the plaintiffs are no longer seeking information specific to the G, H, I, J, and K fields; rather, they request, and Ford agrees to provide, semantic and syntactic information for the data that has been provided to plaintiffs from the database. The parties and their consultants continue to confer regarding open issues involving the NAVIS, VSAD, and AWS databases, but anticipate that they will be able to resolve the issues soon.
2. Ford reports that it is working to complete the conversion to .cvs format of the MORS II, MORS III, and CQIS data that was provided to the plaintiffs in hard copy. The plaintiffs expressed concern that the reason the conversion was taking so long was that Ford was removing information from the .cvs versions of the databases because that information was not included in the hard copy versions provided to plaintiffs. Ford will determine whether that is the case and inform the plaintiffs within one week.
3. With regard to the OASIS database, Ford has agreed to conduct a search of the database using the broad symptom codes for tires and vibration and provide the results to the plaintiffs, so that the plaintiffs can determine whether the search yields information in addition to that provided

by similar searches of the CQIS and MORS databases. Ford will complete these searches within the week.

4. The plaintiffs report that they received three empty data tapes from Ford; Ford will provide replacements for those tapes promptly.
5. The parties' consultants will discuss the issue of Ford's production of its NHTSA data mining materials and attempt to clear up the parties' confusion regarding the issue.
6. Ford's counsel agreed to determine whether Ford can provide plaintiffs with the CQIS and MORS manuals that were produced in previous litigation, and also to find out more information about the "lessons learned" database that was referenced during the recent deposition of a Ford engineer.
7. Another telephonic conference to discuss any remaining issues regarding Ford's database production will be held on **Monday, March 11, 2002, at noon**. Mr. Morrison, counsel for Ford, will arrange the call and inform the court and liaison counsel of the arrangements.

ENTERED this _____ day of March 2002.

V. Sue Shields
United States Magistrate Judge
Southern District of Indiana

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